

## #21: Harry S Truman Dam

The Harry S Truman Dam is located on the Osage River about one and half miles northwest of Warsaw and consists of an earth-rock embankment, concrete spillway and hydroelectric power plant. Water is released through the power plant to produce hydroelectric power. The Truman Reservoir is the largest flood control lake in Missouri, with a storage capacity of more than five million acre-feet.

2300 families were relocated and 5200 graves were moved to new sites in order to construct the dam.

The official groundbreaking ceremony for the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir was on Oct. 9, 1964, in Shawnee Bend where the dam is situated in 2019. The dam was essentially completed in 1979. The reservoir filled up pretty fast. By November, 1980, Truman Dam and Reservoir had a lake of some 55,600 acres. The lake extends at full flood stage into Benton, Henry, Hickory and St. Clair counties, some 200,000 acres. It rises about 100 feet above the normal level of the Lake of the Ozarks, extending about 5,000 feet across the valley at the dam proper.

The dam was originally known as Kaysinger Dam and Reservoir. Construction was halted during the Vietnam War when federal funding was difficult. Local citizens made many trips to Washington, DC in efforts to complete its construction. The name was changed to Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir to assure congressional approval of funding for its completion.

Steps 20-22 are all operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.